

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 AGR-20 FEAE-00 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 SWF-02 CIEP-03

CEA-02 FRB-03 OMB-01 DRC-01 /196 W

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R 061106Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9510

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIETIANE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USMISSION NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 3350

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, XC

SUBJ: INDOCHINA DONORS' MEETING

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REF: STATE 192069

1. E/C COUNSELOR MADE REFTEL REPRESENTATION SEPT 5 TO PETER SALADIN AND PAUL AENISHAENSLIN, OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH SWISS MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, DIVISION OF COMMERCE. SALADIN SAID HE EXPECTS SWITZERLAND WILL BE REPRESENTED AT OCTOBER 17 MEETING, PROBABLY BY AENISHAENSLIN. HE THOUGHT MEETING OFFERED USEFUL OPPORTUNITY EXCHANGE VIEWS AND REVIEW STATUS DONOR COUNTRY AID PROGRAMS AND PLANS. SALADIN SAID THAT SWISS POSITION NOT YET FORMULATED FOR OCTOBER MEETING, AND THUS HE WELCOMED RECEIVING ADVANCE INDICATION USG VIEWS. NOTING THAT SUBJECT NOT YET DISCUSSED WITH OTHER INTERESTED DEPARTMENTS, PARTICULARLY POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, SALADIN OFFERED FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY COMMENTS.

2. REFLECTING NEUTRALITY OF SWITZERLAND, CONSCIOUS EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE BE "EVEN-HANDED" TO ASSURE THAT FOUR INDOCHINA COUNTRIES RECEIVE APPROXIMATELY SAME AMOUNT OF SMALL-SCALE SWISS BILATERAL AID, WHICH IS PRIMARILY HUMANITARIAN, AGRICULTURAL, MEDICAL, AND/OR RECONSTRUCTION IN CHARACTER. THUS, SWISS WOULD PREFER FOR TIME BEING CONTINUE SEE MULTILATERAL DONOR COUNTRY MEETINGS FOCUS ON INDOCHINA AS WHOLE RATHER THAN SEE SPECIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED LAOS AND SOUTH VIET NAM THRU FORMATION DONOR SUB-GROUPS. SWISS WOULD ALSO PREFER NOT SEE FORMALIZATION AT THIS TIME OF "GROUP" FOR INDOCHINA PREFERRING FORMULATION IN IBRD/ADB NOTIFICATION RE OCTOBER 17 MEETING OF "COUNTRIES INTERESTED IN INDOCHINA". AT THIS STAGE, SALADIN UNABLE SAY WHETHER SWITZERLAND WOULD WISH BE "MEMBER " OF SUB-GROUPS FOR LAOS, SNV, AND NORTH VIET NAM IF FORMED, OR EVEN OF INDOCHINA "GROUP" IF IT SHOULD BE MORE FORMALLY ESTABLISHED. IN ANY EVENT, SALADIN CONCLUDED, HE TENDED TO FEEL THAT SITUATION THROUGHOUT INDOCHINA STILL TOO FLUID TO DO MUCH MORE THAN PRESENT PRACTICE OF PERIODIC INFORMAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. HOPEFULLY SOMEWHAT LATER SITUATION WILL BE CLARIFIED TO EXTENT THAT MORE FORMAL DONOR COUNTRY COORDINATION WOULD BE USEFUL.

3. SALADIN AGREED KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY AS GOS POSITION FOR OCTOBER 17 MEETING DEVELOPED.

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